

**PATENT**  
*Attorney Docket No. P04988US1*

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: COPPOLA, Vito A.                      Group Art Unit: 1742  
SERIAL NO: 09/824,321                      Examiner: IP, Sikyin  
FILED: April 2, 2001                      Confirmation No: 1241  
TITLE: METHOD OF SUPPRESSING THE OXIDATION CHARACTERISTICS OF  
NICKEL

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
BEFORE MAILING DATE OF EITHER A FINAL ACTION  
OR NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c))**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This information disclosure statement is being filed *before* the mailing date of either a final action under § 1.113 or a notice of allowance under § 1.311, whichever occurs first.

Attached are Forms PTO/SB/08A and 08B (formerly Form PTO-1449) listing the relevant art known to the applicant herein. Copies of the listed references are enclosed. The Examiner is requested to consider the references and make them of record.

Applicant submits herewith patents, publications or other information, of which he is aware that he believes may be material to the examination of this application, and in respect of

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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING/TRANSMISSION (37 CFR 1.8(a))**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is, on the date shown below, being:

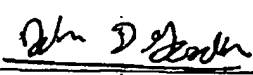
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☒ transmitted by facsimile to the Patent and Trademark Office, Art Unit 1742 at Fax No. (703) 872-9310

Date: August 27, 2003

  
John D. Goodhue

which, there may be a duty to disclose. Legible copies of all items listed in Forms PTO/SB/08A and 08B (formerly Form PTO-1449) accompany this information statement.

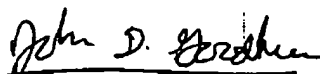
No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

Authorization is hereby made to charge any additional fees required by this paper or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 26-0084.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. (Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.)

Respectfully submitted,



JOHN D. GOODHUE, Reg. No. 25,715  
McKEE, VOORHEES & SEASE, P.L.C.  
801 Grand Avenue, Suite 3200  
Des Moines, Iowa 50309-2721  
Phone No. (515) 288-3667  
Fax No. (515) 288-1338  
CUSTOMER NO: 22885

Attorneys of Record

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Form PTO/SA088 (10-01)

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO		<b>Complete if Known</b>	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (Use as many sheets as necessary)		Application Number	09/824,321
		Filing Date	April 2, 2001
		First Named Inventor	COPPOLLA, Vito A.
		Art Unit	1742
		Examiner Name	IP, Sikyin
		Attorney Docket Number	P04988US1
Sheet	1	of	1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials *	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	1	US- 6,316,100 B1	11-13-2001	Kodas et al.	
	2	US- 6,355,187 B1	03-12-2002	Sanada et al.	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials *	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document Country Code <sup>2</sup> - Number <sup>3</sup> - Kind Code <sup>4</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>5</sup>

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 801.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 18 if possible.

<sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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